

News Release

Attention

By Itollefs on Wednesday, February 23, 2011

Are you: 1. An involved citizen? 2. A believer in volunteerism? 3. Someone who likes to speak to your neighbors? 4. A lover of trees? Yes, yes, yes, yes? Then we need you!

Be a part of Minnesota's one-of-a-kind program to prepare communities for the Emerald Ash Borer. You may not be able to stop the borer, but you can help prevent catastrophic losses to your leafy communities.

The Emerald Ash Borer training is scheduled in Crookston from 6 - 8:30 p.m. on Friday, March 25 and from 8:45 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 26in Kiehle 116.



The University of Minnesota, University of Minnesota Extension, Minnesota Department of Agriculture and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has funded a program that helps communities get the best information for identifying and combating the nasty borer as well as replanting the streets and parks with a more diverse palette of trees. However, we can't do it without you!

We are looking for a few good volunteers that will become EAB-Community Outreach Volunteers. You will be the source of information for your community, the information that will help your town or county make the best decisions about managing the pest, recovering from the damage it causes, and planting a more diverse and healthy community forest for the future.

You will receive training on the use of a standardized Power Point program on emerald ash borer identification, management and recovery. This training is 100% funded by the agency partners...we ask nothing more than your willingness to volunteer and help your community by providing the best, unbiased, research-based information.

The details:

1. Training will consist of 8.5 hours of class activities and exercises.
2. Small classes: 6-12 people.
3. You will be provided with a compact disk of the standardized Power Point program on emerald ash borer identification, management and recovery for your use.
4. You will receive ongoing support from the community preparedness team at the University of Minnesota, Department of Forest Resources and Extension.
5. Training will be conducted in March and April in a community near you.
6. Your role will be to voluntarily present the information to any group in your community that is looking for the best, University research-based information: county fairs, school programs, Arbor Day programs, city councils. Yours will be the voice of accurate information.

For more information: please contact Deborah Zak, Campus Regional Director, University of Minnesota Extension, Extension Regional Office, Crookston. Call 1-888-241-0781 or e-mail, dzak@umn.edu.

Photo of adult emerald ash borer from www.extension.umn.edu/issues/eab/.

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